1877-78

R.M.H.S. RESOURCE CENTER
READING, MASS.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Receipts and Expenditures

OF THE

Town of Reading,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1878,

COMPRISING THE

REPORTS OF THE TOWN CLERK, TREASURER, COLLECTOR,
SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS, OVERSEERS OF THE POOR,
SCHOOL COMMITTEE, ROAD COMMISSIONERS,
ENGINEERS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT,
TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY,
TRUSTEES OF CEMETERY
AND AUDITORS.

READING:
NEWS AND CHRONICLE JOB PRINT,
1878.

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AND AUDITORS.

READING:

News and Chronicle Job Print,

1878.

TOWN OFFICERS, 1877–78.

Town Clerk,

WILLIAM J. WIGHTMAN.

Selectmen, Assessors, Overseers of the Poor and Board of Health.

JOSEPH L. PRATT, J. B. LEATHE, JAMES REID.

Treasurer,

JAMES A. BANCROFT.

Collector,

FREDERICK BANCROFT.

School Committee.

WALTER S. PARKER, Chairman,	term expires,	1880.
HORACE G. WADLIN, Secretary,	"	1879.
W. WALLACE DAVIS,	"	1880.
WILLIAM F. DURGIN,	"	1879.
SOLON BANCROFT,	"	1878.
GEORGE T. DOLE,	"	1878.

Road Commissioners.

JAMES A. BANCROFT, Chairman,	term expires,	1878.
CHARLES A. WESTON,	"	1879.
HENRY S. LACLAIR,	"	1880.

Engineers of Fire Department.

CHARLES H. LANG, Chief.

EDWARD C. NICHOLS, DANIEL CREESY,
GEORGE H. PARKER, JAMES DEWHURST.

Sealers of Weights and Measures,

DANIEL B. LOVEJOY.

Constables,

HUBBARD E. COX, WILLIAM L. CROWE.

Police Officers,

H. E. COX,	WM. L. CROWE,	JOHN A. BLUNT,
EPHRAIM WIGHT,	EDWIN BASSETT,	JAMES H. GRIGGS,
JOS. W. SPOKESFIELD,	AMES GOWING,	GEO. V. MILLETT.

Trustees of Public Library,

EDWARD APPLETON, Chairman,	term expires,	1878.
STEPHEN FOSTER,	"	1880.
HORACE G. WADLIN,	"	1880.
HIRAM BARRUS,	"	1879.
WILLIAM PROCTOR,	"	1879.
F. O. DEWEY,	"	1878.

Trustees of Cemetery,

SOLON BANCROFT,	term expires,	1879.
F. H. KNIGHT,	"	1879.
T. B. PRATT,	"	1880.
W. S. RICHARDSON,	"	1880.
F. O. DEWEY,	"	1878.
G. C. GLEASON,	"	1878.

Auditors,

FRANCIS BARTLEY, FREDERICK BANCROFT, JOHN C. GLEASON.

Town Clerk's Report.

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN READING, 1877.

DATE.	NAMES.	SEX.	NAMES OF PARENTS.	OCCUPATION OF FATHER.
Jan. 6	Benjamin Fletcher Manning	M	Jacob W. and Lydia B.	Nursery man
31	Willard Nichols Gleason	M	Rodney H. and Julia R.	Cabinet maker
Feb. 3	David Whelton Jr.	M	David and Ann	Watchman
8	Ethlyn Gertrude Howes	F	Benj. L. and Caroline L.	Merchant Tailor
8	Marion Helen Prentiss	F	Harley and Helen C.	Salesman
19	Francis Henry McCall	M	Patrick and Margaret	Harness Maker
Mar. 6	Fred Charles Scott	M	Addison G. and Lenore F.	Printer
13	Louise Octavia Bowser	F	Robert and Mary F.	Merchant
16	Howard Roby	M	Samuel R. and Emma L.	Mechanic
21	Zelpha Linwood Thayer	F	George and Zelpha E.	Farmer
21	Chester Edwin Goodwin	M	Edwin H. and Martha S.	Mechanic
22	Mabel Richards Stewart	F	Burton A. and Mary L.	Lock-smith
Ap. 10	Herbert N. Eames	M	Leonard T. and Emily M.	Mechanic
12	John Jacob Wakefield	M	Charles and Mary A.	Farmer
17	Nathaniel Trull Ewer	M	James K. and Emma H.	Clergyman
18	Winthrop Leslie Lewis	M	Frank and Addie E.	Merchant
May 4	Alice Ann Variety	F	John H and Clara F.	Farmer
6	Eliz'th Franziska Wiechman	F	Carl and Caroline	Cabinet maker
13	Alice Eames	F	Charles B. and Lovicy A.	Mechanic
20	Marian Thompson Pratt	F	Frank W. B. and Sarah A.	Clerk
23	Herbert Francis Damon	M	George H. and Mary F.	Book-keeper
29	Helen Ara Parker	F	Ardenne and Frances A.	Merchant
31	Arthur Harrison Brown	M	Charles F. and Elizabeth	Patent Solicitor
June 4	John Warren Ellenwood	M	John S. and Elmira W.	Carpenter
11	Cassandra Maynard Lewis	F	George and Cassandra M.	Mechanic
16	Amelia Delia Doucette	F	Felix and Mary	Carpenter
16	Clinton Watling Crafts	M	Frank E. and Jennette N.	Book-keeper
19	Kirk Aaron Parker	M	Frederick H. and Alice M.	R. R. Freight
24	Stiles	M	Frank J.	Printer
26	Perley Heselton Potter	M	Hanson B. and Lizzie E.	Tel. Linesman
30	Jessie Nason Cummings	F	Charles W. and Susan	Reading Express
July 12	Jennie Aubine Goucher	F	James E. and Abbie D.	Carpenter
13	Francis Osman Dewey	M	Edgar O. and Lizzie D.	Salesman
20	Perley Kendall Richardson	M	Everett B. and Emma M.	Shoe Manufact'r
26	Mabel Howes Robinson	F	Henry and Mary H.	Merchant
29	Katy Foley	F	Bartholomew and Mary	Laborer
Aug. 2	Alice Gertrude Hunter	F	Wm. A. and Elizabeth A.	Mechanic
4	Allen	F	Charles H. and Harriet B.	Salesman
21	Harry Brooks Nichols	M	Herbert E. and Clara E.	Milk Dealer
24	Chester Ellsworth Kingman	M	Charles H. and Mary A.	Clerk
25	Willard Massey Crowe	M	William L and Sophia	Cabinet maker
29	John Frederick Warnow	M	Frederick and Margaret	Cabinet maker
Sept. 3	Marion Lucy Barbour	F	William and Annie M.	Brush Manufac'r
9	Charles Blanchard	M	Langdon and Lillian E.	Laborer
Oct. 11	Maud Cook Parker	F	George A. and Ellen I.	Book-keeper
17	Lula Agnes Cook	F	George F. and Augusta A.	Blacksmith
17	Joseph LaClair	M	William and Mary H.	Mechanic
18	Earnest Leon Rahr	M	Christian E. and Emma I.	Custom House
19	Percy Ray Danforth	M	Alfred W. and Alice A.	Druggist
23	Jennie Flora Foster	F	Lyman B. and Jennie	Teacher
29	Florence Emma Burgess	F	Robert and Mary D.	Plasterer

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN READING, 1877.

DATE.	NAMES.	SEX.	NAMES OF PARENTS.	OCCUPATION OF FATHER.
Nov. 8	Bessie Gertrude Hager	F	George and Agnes L.	Baggage Master
12	Bessie Evelyn Judkins	F	John S. and Nellie J.	Expressman
13	John Arden Warren	M	John P. and Clara J.	Organ Pipe m'k'r
20	Arthur Ellsworth Day	M	Arthur B. and Nellie A.	Painter
29	Willlam Henry Hunton	M	Frank W. and Helen M.	Brakeman
30	Abbott	M	George E. and Martha J.	Architect
Dec. 5	Lillian May Brown	F	H. Walter and Ella H.	Clerk
13	Francis Buchanan Hunt	M	George W. and Mary Ann	Mechanic
28	Fannie Ann Doncette	F	John and Fanny	Stone Mason
28	Milliken	F	John and Mary.	Brush maker

Number of births registered for the year 1877, 61; Males 34—Females 27.

NATIVITY OF PARENTS.	Fathers.	Mothers.
Reading,	19	15
Other Towns in U. S.,	28	31
Foreign,	14	15

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN READING IN 1877.

DATE.	NAME OF GROOM AND BRIDE.	AGE.	RESIDENCE.	OCCUPATION OF GROOM.	PLACE OF BIRTH.	NAMES OF PARENTS	BY WHOM MARRIED.
Jan. 1	William Barbour	23	Reading	Brush manfr.	Wakefield	Joseph and Elizabeth	Rev. William H. Willcox
	Annie M. Eaton	22	Reading		Reading	Osgood and Lucy A.	
27	James M. Fortis	30	Wilmington	Laborer	Wilmington	William and Mary Ann	" James K. Ewer
	Susan H. Taylor	16	Wilmington		Wilmington	Elbridge and Abby L.	
Feb. 3	Charles B Eames	30	Reading	Mechanic	Wilmington	James M. and Delia	" William J. Batt
	Lovicy A. Danforth	26	Reading		Amherst, N. H.	Charles C. and Clarissa	[Stoneham
22	Lawrence B. Bailey	26	Hillsboro' N. H.	Merchant	Washington, N. H.	Gilman and Lucy B.	" James K. Ewer
	Lucelia Brockway	27	Washington, N. H.		Washington, N. H.	Israel and Mary B. Proctor	
Mar. 12	Frederick Warnow	23	Reading	Cabinet	Germany	and Elizabeth	" Arthur J. Hovey
	Margaret McKenney	20	Reading	maker	Reading	Owen and Bridget	[Stoneham
Apl. 11	Charles E. Warren	23	Reading	Organ Pipe	Reading	Joseph and Caira	" James K. Ewer
	Sarah J. Morse	22	Reading	maker	Malden	George W. and Jane	
May 30	Calvin L. Martin	25	Plaistow, N. H.	Freight Agt.	Penobsquis, N. B.	Samuel and Sarah	" E. B. Fairchild
	Julia F. Weston	28	Reading		Reading	John B. and Lucinda L.	
June 14	Alfred Perkins	39	Reading	Purchasing	Boston	Alfred and Christina C.	" William H Willcox
	Mary J. Lynch	29	Reading	Agent	Sydney, Australia	Martin and Fanny A.	
20	George H. Barrus	22	Reading	Engineer	Goshen	Hiram and Augusta S.	" William H. Willcox
	Sarah L. Dewey	21	Reading		Brighton	Francis O. and Elizabeth A.	
20	William O. Hewes	26	Boston	Salesman	Sandwich, N. H.	William and Sophia A.	" William H. Willcox
	Isabella P. Dewey	19	Reading		Brighton	Francis O. and Elizabeth A.	
21	J F. Kent	23	Wakefield	Mason	Wolfboro', N. H	George W. and Mary H.	" J. L. Hanaford
	Carrie E. Rich	21	Saugus		Saugus	William H. and Louisa A.	
25	Lyman L. Jones	30	Weld Me.	Farmer	Weld Me.	Benjamin and Eunice	" William H. Willcox
	Mattie S. Wightman	27	Reading		Reading	William J. and Sarah C.	
July 15	Walter A. Foster	20	Ashby	Farmer	Ashby	A. and Louisa	" J. L. Hanaford
	Ada F. Allen	19	North Reading		North Reading	Samuel Orn and Betsey	
Aug. 9	Edward P. Collins	22	Boston	Book-keeper	Boston	James P. and Elizabeth P.	" P. M. Macdonald
	Mary Norris	21	Reading		Reading	Lewis and Mary	
21	Walter Blaisdell	19	Wilmington	Farmer	Woburn	George L. and L. J.	" William H. Willcox
	Hattie L. Emerson	18	Boston		Boston	Jacob and Mary	

	23	Alvin B. Jenness	24	Reading	Painter	New Durham, N. H.	Seth and Samantha	Thomas Wilson,
		Sarah A. Kidder	25	Reading		Dixfield, Me.	Jacob and Sabrina	[Justice of Peace, Boston
	24	Charles H. Kingman	29	Reading	Clerk	Reading	Gilman D. and Nancy M.	W J. Wightman, J. P.
		Mary A. Hibbert	26	Reading		Gloucester	Joseph and Mary A.	
	30	George F. Flint	36	North Reading	Farmer	North Reading	Abijah and Fanny	Rev. William H. Willcox
		Delia A. McIntire	22	North Reading		North Reading	Sylvester H. and Juliette	
Sept.	4	James D. Kimball	48	Reading	Moulder	Walpole, N. H.	John and Eliza M.	" G. W. Field,
		Sarah A. Flanders	37	Stoneham		Plymouth, N. H.	Oliver and Hannah F.	[Bangor Me.
	12	Edward A. Harnden	21	Reading	Clerk	Reading	Sylvester and Mary E.	" William L. Barnes,
		Susie M. Bancroft	19	Woburn		Reading	Haskell K. and Abby W.	[Woburn
	26	Frank W. Moulton	23	Reading	Organ Pipe	Barnstead, N. H.	Charles H. and Mary A.	" J. L. Hanaford
		Annie B Ballentine	24	Reading	maker	Nova Scotia	David and Isabella	
	27	William Bassett	23	Bridgewater	Farmer	Bridgewater	Josiah L. and Selina G.	" William H. Willcox
		Abbie M. Parker	25	Reading		Reading	Stillman E. and Emeline	
Oct.	15	Charles E. Damon	22	Reading	Merchant	Reading	Edgar and Ellen M.	" Lyman Whitney
		Amie Whiting	22	Reading		Reading	Lyman and	
Nov.	21	George E. Manning	24	Reading	Laborer	Richmond, N. H.	Thomas and Martha M.	" Charles R. Bliss
		Ida M. Lovejoy	22	Reading		Andover	William and Laura	[Wakefield
	22	Frederick Bancroft	32	Reading	Broker	Reading	Emory and Harriet B.	" L. J White
		Carrie Bartley	35	Reading		Windham, N. H.	Robert and Elizabeth O.	
	22	Austin P. Childs	30	Reading	Farmer	Woburn.	Prentiss and Esther	" Charles R Bliss
		Harriet A. Parker	32	Wakefield		Andover	Simeon and Fanny	[Wakefield
	28	Dexter C. Wright	37	Wakefield	Milk Dealer	Wakefield	Nathaniel C. and Julia	" William H. Willcox
		Abbie A. Arrington	38	Wakefield		Reading	Sumner and Electa Weston	
Dec.	8	Hiram J. Litchfield	23	Reading	Farmer	Carlisle	James and Betsey	" Christopher C. Hurney
		Angeline Gauthier	24	Lowell		Canada	Joseph and Jane	[Billerica

Whole number of Marriages in Reading for the year 1877, 28

NATIVITY OF PERSONS MARRIED,

Reading,	Males,	5	Females,	9
Other Towns in U S.,	"	21	"	16
Foreign,	"	2	"	3

DEATHS REGISTERED IN READING IN 1877.

DATE.		NAMES.	AGE. Y	M	D	NAMES OF PARENTS OR HUSBAND.	CAUSE.
January	18	William H. Temple	45	11	1	William and Mary	Consumption
	19	William Balch	84	1	19	Israel and	
	20	T. V. W. Johansen	18				Typhoid Fever
February	4	Charles A. Mellen	42	2	1	Charles B. and	Heart Disease
	11	Carrie A. Winton	2	4	8	R. J. and Lottie	Scarlet Fever
	23	George E. Leathe	62	2	8	James and Mary	Pneumonia
March	18	Mary P. Bancroft	78	2	24	Ashael and Elizabeth Porter	Pneumonia
	20	Wilfred R. Brown	4	9	6	Francis F. and Emma M.	Diptheria
April	7	Nancy B. Parker	55	11	24	Amos and Nancy	Pneumonia
	9	Arthur S. Willis		4	21	Octavus N. and Martha B.	Broncho. Pneumonia
	30	Train Sweetser Hill		8	24	Charles H. and Fanny I.	Broncho. Pneumonia
May	2	Ellen A. Pratt	24	3	29	Benjamin F. and Harriet	Consumption
	6	Ruth E. Rayner	51	5	13	Moody and Betsey Beard	Cancer
	16	Clarence E. Howard	20	4		John E and Mary C.	Consumption
	19	Edith E. Smith	5	10	19	Elbridge and Eliza	Pneumonia
	30	Benjamin Peabody	64	2		Stephen and Olive	Disease of Heart
	31	Herbert N. Eames		1	22	Leonard F. and Emily M.	Congestion of Lungs
June	1	Elizabeth Preston	71	9	20	James and Ann McKowen	Paralysis
	19	Cassie M. Lewis	24	5	18	Leonard B. and Eliza A. Faunce	Consumption
	19	Bethia T. Hawes	25	4		William and Temperance	Bright's Disease
	25	Franklin Fletcher	54	9	16	Ichabod H. and Rebecca	Myilitis
	27	I. Butler Grouard	8	6	23	George W. and Annie S.	Diptheria
	27	Emma E. Ramsdell	20	8	5	William B. and Eunice	Consumption
July	4	Maria Grouard	77		1		Old Age
	8	Carrie E. Evans	5	8	14	Thomas A. and Esther	Croup
	10	Lot Goodwin	82	2	28	John and Sarah	Paralysis
	22	Eddie S. Berry	10	5	1	Henry and Mary E.	Diptheria
	23	Bartholomew Whelton	53				
August	4	Allen				Charles H. and Harriet B.	Still born
	9	William W. Eames	27		1	James M. and Delia	Consumption

	16	Sarah A. Carter	1	7	19	Frederic O. and Sarah L.	Dysentery
	22	Perley H. Potter		2	1	Hanson B. and Lizzie E.	Cholera Infantum
	26	William D. Krook	29	8	11	William and Sophia	Typhoid Dysentery
September	7	Sarah J. Buttrick	73	2	13	William and Aliah	Consumption
	24	Nancy L. Page	70	3	6	Joseph and Hannah Call	Gastric Ulcer
October	1	Tabitha Damon	81	1	14	John Damon	Dropsy
	2	William Brooks	62	11	17	Samuel and Eleanor	Chronic Bronchitis
	4	Nathan Barnes	66	10	3	William and Sarah	Paralysis
	10	Sarah J. Adams	72			Stephen and Mary J. Searle	Congestion of Lungs
	30	Hannah L. Dow	38			David and Syrena Merrill	Consumption
November	15	Betsey Towne	79	4	11	Levi Towne	Paralysis
	24	Martha E. Ramsdell	23	9	3	William B. and Eunice	Consumption
	30	Abbott				George E. and Martha J.	Still born
December	4	Emily Heselton	53	7	10	Jonathan Heselton	Inflammation of Liver
	10	Mercy Nichols	82		1	John and Martha Knight	Fracture of Hip Joint
	27	Susan A. Hewes	34		5	Daniel and Dorcas Berry	Consumption

Whole number of Deaths registered for the year 1877, 46

Males, 22. Females, 24. Married, 19. Widowed, 4. Single, 23.

NATIVITY. Reading, 23. Other towns in U. S., 19. Foreign, 4.

WILLIAM J. WIGHTMAN, TOWN CLERK.

Receipts and Expenditures.

ALMSHOUSE. Dr.

To groceries,	$372	20
flour and bread,	219	99
grain and meal,	217	55
provisions,	193	70
bedding and clothing,	59	21
furniture,	17	16
produce,	16	33
wood and coal,	153	14
wheelwright and blacksmiths bills,	25	22
hired labor,	67	02
medical services and medicines,	18	13
repairs on buildings,	62	88
farming tools,	13	73
pasturing stock,	4	00
sundries,	27	40
salary of keeper,	400	00
	$1867	66

ALMSHOUSE. Cr.

By labor on highways,	134	96
wood sold,	216	02
lighting street lamps,	66	00
labor,	16	40
cash for board of sundry persons,	284	50
stock and produce sold,	110	78
cash from collection of bills of previous years,	150	24
lodging and food for 1708 tramps	597	80
Mrs. O'Keefes pension,	96	00
" " state aid,	48	00
cash drawn from treasury,	146	96
	$1867	66

INVENTORY OF PERSONAL PROPERTY AT ALMSHOUSE MARCH 1st, 1878.

Furniture, crockery and tin ware,	$259	44
Beds and bedding,	280	00
Stoves and fixtures,	102	00
Provisions,	99	68
Manure,	75	00
Horse,	200	00
Cow and calf,	45	00
Swine,	35	00
Two carts,	120	00
Farm wagon,	65	00
Light wagon,	40	00
Stone wagon,	20	00
Horse Sled,	20	00
Sleigh,	12	00
Mowing Machine,	30	00
Farming utensils,	193	85
Hay,	118	00
Grain and meal,	3	00
Fowls,	16	20
Wood and coal,	125	75
Posts and lumber,	15	00
Arches for building cisterns,	10	00
Bills due for labor, produce, etc.,	332	92
	$2217	84

NAMES AND AGES OF INMATES AT ALMSHOUSE.

	YEARS.
Caroline Wiley,	71
Alpheus Austin,	58
Catherine O'Keefe,	71
James A. Hunter,	34
Hannah Welch,	
John Parker, (left April 12, 1877),	83

Whole number during the year, 6

Present number, 5

EXPENSES OF POOR OUT OF HOUSE.

Paid for supplies for Mary A. Blanchard, -	$12 50	
fuel, " -	48 81	
medical attendance and medicine, -	7 50	
		$68 81
supplies for Mrs. Lewella R. Lloyd and family, - - - -	5 00	
fuel, " "	25 87	
rent, " "	84 00	
		114 87
supplies for Benjamin Weston and family,	4 00	
fuel, " "	12 56	
board and charges at Lunatic Hospital, Worcester, - - -	186 03	
		202 59
board and charges for Alma J. Day at Lunatic Hospital, Ipswich, - -		168 40
supplies for Widow Calvin Nichols and family, - - - -	3 00	
fuel, " "	27 27	
rent, " "	36 00	
medical attendance, "	8 00	
		74 27
supplies for Nathan Barnes, - - -		105 00
supplies for Geo. W. Batchelder, - -		10 00
supplies for William Pierce and family,	20 15	
fuel, " "	39 62	
rent, " "	24 00	
		83 77
board of Jonathan Bryant and wife,	149 25	
fuel for " "	13 00	
		162 25
supplies for Oliver S. Adams and family,	13 00	
fuel, " "	6 75	
		19 75
Amount carried forward,		$1009 71

Amount brought forward,			$1009 71
Paid for supplies for Mrs. Sarah L. Penney and family, - - - -	66 00		
medical attendance, - - -	16 25		
" expense of removal of children to Wanderers' Home, - - -	7 53		
		89 78	
Paid for supplies for John Parker, - - -		78 50	
supplies for Widow Louisa R. Parker, -		8 00	
supplies for Sarah E. Saunders, -	5 80		
for fare to Ohio, - - -	19 50		
		25 30	
Paid City of Boston for supplies for Edmund Grover, -		48 00	
" " Joel A. Freeman, -		1 82	
" " Hannah Welch, -		2 35	
" " Mrs. Emil Ross, -		9 23	
Paid for supplies for Widow Jerusha McIntire,	1 55		
fuel, " "	31 15		
rent, " "	48 00		
		80 70	
supplies for Orville N. Wilder and family,	20 00		
medical attendance,	68 00		
		88 00	
board and charges for Abigail P. Beers at Lunatic Hospital, - - -		187 65	
supplies for Widow Bridget Donnegan and family, - - - -	111 00		
fuel, " "	11 28		
		122 28	
supplies for Harry Hunton, - - -		104 00	
Samuel H. White, - - - -		3 00	
supplies and fuel for Patrick Farrington and family,		8 50	
supplies for Henry Berry and family,	141 00		
medical attendance, - - -	35 00		
		176 00	
Amount carried forward,		$2042 81	

Amount brought forward		$2042 82
supplies for Langdon S. Blanchard and family,	15 00	
fuel, " "	18 13	
medical attendance,	20 00	
		53 13
support of Wm. H. Manning,		64 50
supplies for George E. Leathe, Jr, and family,		25 00
supplies for Henry W. Freeman,		10 00
medical attendance on Patrick Connolly,		12 65
fuel for John H. Daland and family,		3 38
fare of State Paupers to State Almshouse,		90
		$2212 38

RECEIPTS FOR SUPPORT OF POOR OUT OF HOUSE.

From Town of Woburn for supplies for Henry Berry,	$166 00	
City of Boston for supplies for L. R. Lloyd,	118 12	
Town of Wakefield for supplies for Patrick Farrington,	8 50	
State for support of State pauper,	12 86	
	$305 48	

DUE.

From City of Springfield for supplies for O. N. Wilder,	88 00	
Town of Malden for supplies for S. L. Penney,	118 34	
Town of Carlisle for supplies for O. S. Adams,	19 75	
City of Boston for supplies for L. R. Lloyd,	20 25	
		551 82
Net expense of Poor out of House,		$1660 56
Net expense of Poor in the House,		146 96
Whole expense in and out of House,		$1807 52
Paid for food and lodging 1708 Tramps, at 35 cents each,	$597 80	

STATE AID.

Paid Lucy J. Allen,	$48 00
Angie Allen,	18 00
Mary A. Blanchard,	48 00
Dorcas Berry,	48 00
Seth Bessey,	93 00
George W. Carleton,	18 00
W. Wallace Davis,	72 00
Martin J. DeRonde,	42 00
Lydia C. Eaton,	48 00
Caroline Goodwin,	48 00
Sarah Hetler,	48 00
L. W. Krook,	36 00
Charles B. Leathe,	154 00
Rebecca Lloyd,	48 00
Benjamin McAlister,	72 00
William Mears,	36 00
Edwin Manning,	54 00
Sarah Nichols,	48 00
Catherine O'Keefe,	48 00
Margaret Pinkham,	48 00
Christian E. Rahr,	54 00
William B. Reed,	36 00
Harriet C. Robinson,	48 00
Charlotte Richardson,	24 00
Eliza Stevens,	48 00
Henry F. Scruton,	24 00
Harriet Young,	48 00
	$1357 00

TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid William F. Durgin for services on School Committee to April 2, 1877,	$15 00
Walter S. Parker for services on School Committee for one year ending March 1, 1877,	50 00
W. Wallace Davis for services on School Committee to March 1, 1878,	50 00
George T. Dole for services on School Committee to March 1, 1878,	43 25
Amount carried forward,	$158 25

Amount brought forward,		$158 25
Solon Bancroft for services on School Committee to April 1, 1877,	40 00	
Horace G. Wadlin for services on School Committee to March 1, 1878,	60 00	
James Reid for services as Selectman, Assessor, Overseer of Poor, and on Board of Health to March 1, 1878,	275 00	
J. B. Leathe for services as Selectman, Assessor, Overseer of Poor, and on Board of Health to March 1st. 1878,	250 00	
Joseph L. Pratt for services as Selectman, Assessor, Overseer of the Poor, and on Board of Health to March 1st, 1878,	220 00	
Paid Wm. J. Wightman for services as Town Clerk to March 1st, 1878,	25 00	
Wm. J. Wightman for recording Births, Deaths, and Marriages,	46 72	
Wm. J. Wightman for making other official records,	15 00	
Wm. J. Wightman for issuing certificate to representative,	2 00	
James A. Bancroft for services as Treasurer and Collector to March 1st, 1878,	150 00	
James A. Bancroft for services as Road Commissioners to March 1st, 1878,	50 00	
Charles A. Weston for services as Road Commissioner to March 1st, 1878,	50 00	
Henry S. LaClair for services as Road Commissioner to March 1st, 1878,	50 00	
W. Wallace Davis for services as Collector to March 1st, 1878,	60 00	
Frederick Bancroft for services as Collector to March 1st, 1878,	140 00	
Frederick Bancroft for services as Auditor for 1876–7,	3 00	
Francis Bartley for services as Auditor for 1876–7,	3 00	
William L. Crowe for services as Constable and Policeman to March 1st, 1878,	19 00	
Amount carried forward,		$1616 97

Amount brought forward,	$1616 97	
Hubbard E. Cox for services as Constable to Nov. 6th, 1877,	10 25	
Ames Gowing for services as Policeman,	2 10	
Joseph W. Spokesfield for services as Policeman to March 1st, 1878,	2 00	
H. G. Wadlin for taking census of School Children,	8 75	
		$1640 07

TOWN OFFICE.

Charles K. Darling for Blank Book and Stationery,	15 43	
J. A. Bancroft for envelopes,	45	
Thomas Groom & Co. for Tax Book for Collector,	1 50	
J. B. Leathe for Rail Road Tickets,	4 40	
J. L. Pratt for Postage Stamps,	3 00	
Daniel L. Barnard for Cleaning Office,	2 00	
Bancroft & Temple for Window Screens,	7 00	
Chas. H. Lang Express charges,	2 45	
Cummings Express for Express charges,	1 15	
Geo. Beasley, Keeper of Almshouse, for Wood,	1 20	
William Proctor for one year's Rent to January 1, 1878,	150 00	
		$188 58

PRINTING.

Paid Hill & Co. for printing Town Reports for 1876-7,	$187 00	
Hill & Co. for printing Town Warrants,	7 00	
Hill & Co. for printing Tax Bills and Valuation Books,	19 50	
Hill & Co. for printing Bill Heads, Orders, Notices, &c.,	31 10	
		$244 60

SCHOOLS.

Appropriation,	$8500 00	
Amount drawn,	8266 07	
Amount unexpended,		$233 93

INCIDENTAL SCHOOL EXPENSES.

Appropriation,	$1000 00	
Amount drawn,	730 00	
Amount unexpended,		$270 00

REPAIRS OF HIGHWAYS.

Appropriation,	$2500 00	
Amount drawn,	2500 00	

CLEARING SNOW.

Appropriation,	$450 00	
Amount drawn,	431 90	
Amount unexpended,		$18 10

BUILDING BERKELEY STREET,

Appropriation,	$200 00	
Amount drawn,	184 20	
Amount unexpended,		$15 80

BUILDING SIDEWALK ASH STREET.

Appropriation,	$150 00	
Amount drawn,	140 32	
Amount unexpended,		$9 68

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Appropriation,	$1700 00	
Amount drawn,	1675 18	
Amount unexpended,		$24 82

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Appropriation—Money, - - -	$300 00	
" Dog tax, - - -	183 02	
	$483 02	
Amount drawn - - -	483 02	

CEMETERY.

Appropriation, - - - - - -	$450 00	
Amount drawn, - - - - - -	350 00	
Amount unexpended, - - -		$100 00

STREET LIGHTS.

Paid Citizens Gas Light Co. for Gas, - -	$148 83	
for Naptha, - - - -	39 20	
Lighting, - - - -	123 75	
Express charges, - - -	11 15	
Repairs, - - - -	4 65	
		$327 58

DECORATION OF SOLDIERS GRAVES.

Appropriation, - - - - -	$100 00	
Amount drawn, - - -	100 00	

PUMP CORNER WASHINGTON AND ASH STREETS.

Appropriation, - - - - -	25 00	
Amount drawn, - - - - -	19 78	
Amount unexpended, - - -		$5 22

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

On list of J. A. Bancroft, Collector to 1876,	$299 41	
W. Wallace Davis, Collector for year 1876,	84 76	
Frederick Bancroft, Collector for year 1877, - - - -	52 09	
		$436 26

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

Paid Lyceum Hall Association, for use of Hall for Town meetings,	$50 00	
Wm. J. Wightman for Tax Title to estate of Eben Beard, and expenses on same,	124 90	
Edward C. Bates for tree protectors,	30 51	
Bancroft & Temple for watering trough, etc.,	5 60	
G. C. Gleason for returning Deaths to Town Clerk,	11 50	
Geo. Beasley for setting and tarring trees on Common,	2 25	
Samuel Pierce for plank for highways in 1873,	1 50	
George W. Dean for ringing bell for Town meetings,	1 00	
State for blank Register for Voters,	1 20	
Chelmsford Foundry Co. sundries for Cistern,	3 58	
Nathan Bancroft for care and repair of Town Flag,	12 50	
David Crowell for Labor on Cistern in 1876,	6 00	
James M. Eames for fitting Cistern work,	1 50	
James A. Bancroft for surveying Berkeley St.,	4 00	
		$256 04

RECEIPTS.

Appropriation for Schools,	$8500 00	
Incidental School expenses,	1000 00	
Repair of Highways,	2500 00	
Removing Snow,	250 00	
Fire Department,	1700 00	
Public Library,	300 00	
Improvement of Cemetery,	450 00	
Interest on Town Debt,	3800 00	
Payment of Town Debt, $1.00 on each $1000 of valuation,	2360 00	
Ordinary expenses,	5500 00	
Decoration of Soldiers' Graves,	100 00	
Building Berkeley St. (so-called),	200 00	
" Side walk on Ash Street,	150 00	
Amount carried forward,	$26810 00	

Amount brought forward,		$26810 00
Appropriation for Purchase of Rut Scraper,	125 00	
Pump cor. Ash and Washington Streets,	25 00	
For Overlaying of Taxes,	1091 01	
State Tax,	1950 00	
County Tax,	1143 26	
		$31144 27

Of State for State aid,	1252 35	
Corporation Tax,	454 38	
National Bank Tax,	448 72	
from School Fund,	204 94	
for support of State Pauper,	12 86	
County Treasurer on Dog Licenses,	183 02	
" discount on County Tax,	11 43	
For Interest on Taxes,	629 65	
" Deposits,	25 00	
Premium on Town Note,	30 00	
Of School Committee for Gravel sold,	105 50	
For Betterments,	40 00	
Of Town of Woburn for expense of bound stone,	10 32	
" Supplies for Henry Berry,	166 00	
" Wakefield for supplies for Patrick Farrington,	8 50	
City of Boston for supplies for Lewella R. Lloyd,	118 12	
		$3700 79

Due from City of Springfield for supplies for O. N. Wilder,	88 00	
Town of Malden for supplies for S. L. Penney,	118 34	
Town of Carlisle, for supplies for O. S. Adams,	19 75	
City of Boston for supplies for L. R. Lloyd,	20 25	
State for State Aid,	18 00	
		$264 34
		$35109 40

EXPENDITURES.

Paid for Schools,	$8266 07	
Incidentals,	730 00	
Supplies at Almshouse,	146 96	
for Poor out of Almshouse,	2212 38	
Tramps, 1708 at 35 cts. each,	597 80	
Town Officers,	1640 07	
Town office,	188 58	
Printing,	244 60	
Public Library,	483 02	
Cemetery,	350 00	
Street Lights,	327 58	
Decoration of Soldiers Graves,	100 00	
Building Berkeley Street,	184 20	
Repair of Highways,	2500 00	
Clearing Snow,	431 90	
Building Sidewalk on Ash Street,	140 32	
Fire Department,	1675 18	
Miscellaneous Expenses,	256 04	
Abatement of Taxes,	436 26	
Pump corner Washington and Ash Street,	19 78	
State Aid,	1357 00	
State Tax,	1950 00	
County Tax,	1143 26	
Interest on Town Debt,	3662 48	
		$29043 48

Total Receipts,	$35109 40
Total Expenditures,	29043 48
Receipts more than Expenditures,	$6065 92

VALUATION FOR 1877.

Real Estate, . - - - . .	$2,127,563 00
Personal Estate, ...	232,874 00
Total Valuation, ...	$2,360,437 00
Amount of Taxes Assessed, ...	$31,144 27

Rate of Taxation, $12 50 on $1000 00
Poll Tax, . . . $2 00

JOSEPH L. PRATT,
J. B. LEATHE,
JAMES REID,
} Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of the Poor.

Note. — On page 12 for Jonathan Bryant read *Joseph* Bryant.

W. WALLACE DAVIS,

COLLECTOR OF 1876 TAXES,

IN ACCOUNT WITH THE TOWN OF READING.

DR.

March 1, 1877, to Uncollected Taxes, 1876,	$7995 54	
Interest Collected,	319 45	
Total,		$8314 99

CR.

By Cash paid J. A. Bancroft, Treasurer,		
Interest collected,	$319 45	
Taxes collected,	5374 78	
Total,		$5694 23
Uncollected Taxes, 1876,		2620 76
		$8314 99

W. WALLACE DAVIS, COLLECTOR.

READING, March 18, 1878.

FREDERICK BANCROFT, Collector,

IN ACCOUNT WITH TOWN OF READING.

Dr.

To Tax List for collection,	$31,162 77	
Interest collected,	52 43	
		$31,215 20

Cr.

By Cash paid James A. Bancroft, Treasurer,	$21,725 00	
Taxes uncollected,	9,490 20	
		$31,215 20

FREDERICK BANCROFT, Collector.

Reading, March 15, 1878.

Dr. **JAMES A. BANCROFT, Treasurer, in account with the Town of Reading.** *Cr.*

To Balance in Treasury, March 15, 1877,		$6060 51	
City of Springfield, for support of O. N. Wilder,		23 00	
Town of Malden, for support of S. L. Penney,		185 15	
" Wakefield, " P. Farrington,		8 50	
" Woburn, " H. Berry,		166 00	
" " on account, Bound Stone,		10 32	
City of Boston for support of L. R. Lloyd,		118 12	
Hired money,		14453 99	
Interest on Deposits,		25 00	
" " Taxes,		260 20	
Premium " Note,		30 00	
Discount " County Tax,		11 43	
State Aid,		1252 35	
Corporation Tax,		454 38	
National Bank Tax,		448 72	
Betterments,		40 00	
Burial of State Paupers,		10 00	
Support " "		12 86	
School Fund,		204 94	
Dog Licenses,		183 02	
School Committee, for gravel sold to T. J. Mayall,		105 50	
W. Wallace Davis, collector,		5694 23	
Frederick Bancroft, "		21725 00	
		$51483 22	

READING, March 18, 1878.

By paying Selectmens' orders,			$22287 99
Town debt,			18453 99
Interest on Town debt,			3662 48
State tax,			1950 00
County tax,			1143 26
			$47497 72
Uncollected taxes of 1875,	$423 24		
Balance in Treasury cash,	3562 26		
		$3985 50	
			$51483 22

JAMES A. BANCROFT, TREASURER.

AUDITORS' REPORT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1878.

LIABILITIES.

Town Notes March 1, 1877,	$63,900 00	
" " 1878,	59,900 00	
		$59,900 00
Decrease for the year,	$4000 00	
Interest accrued on Town Notes,	819 10	
Due Fire Department (estimated),	1100 00	
Miscellaneous Debts,	200 00	
		2,119 10
		$62,019 10

AVAILABLE ASSETS.

Unpaid Taxes,	$12,513 00	
Due from State (Aid account),	1,497 50	
Claim on Eben Beard's Estate,	125 00	
Due from City of Springfield,	88 00	
" " Boston,	20 25	
" Town of Malden,	118 34	
" " Carlisle,	19 75	
Cash in Treasury,	3,562 26	
		17,944 10
Net Debt March 1, 1878,		$44,075 00
" " 1877,		50,629 36
Decrease for the year,		$6,554 36

SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY.

Town Farm, - - - - -	$4,000 00	
Personal Property at the Town Farm, -	2,217 84	
		$6,217 84
Cemetery Land and Lots, - - -	$2,300 00	
Hearse, - - - - -	120 00	
House, - - - -	75 00	
		2,495 00
Eagle Engine and Hose Carriage, - -	$600 00	
House, - - -	500 00	
Hancock Engine and Hose Carriage, -	450 00	
House, - - -	1,400 00	
Washington Engine, - - -	175 00	
House, - -	25 00	
Union Engine, - - - -	40 00	
Hook and Ladder Carriage, &c., - -	350 00	
House, - - -	80 00	
Furniture and Hose, - - -	1,650 00	
		5,270 00
Property in Town Office, - - - -		350 00
School Houses and Furniture, - -	33,000 00	
Public Library, - - - -	2,200 00	
Piano and Apparatus in High School, -	500 00	
		35,700 00
		$50,032 84

We have examined the books of the Selectmen and Treasurer for the year ending March 1, 1878, and find the same correct and satisfactorily vouched.

FRANCIS BARTLEY, }
J. C. GLEASON, } AUDITORS.

READING, March 18, 1878.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF ENGINEERS

OF THE

READING FIRE DEPARTMENT.

To the Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Reading: —

In accordance with our usual custom, we beg leave to submit to you our annual Report, and in doing so we congratulate you on your escape from any very serious fires during the past year. The alarms to which the department has responded since our last report were as follows, viz :—

May 15th, 7 : 30, P. M.— Alarm from burning woodland in the West part of the town, near the Woburn line. A large tract was burned over, but the damage could not be estimated.

July 5th, 7 : 45, P. M.—Alarm caused by burning brush in the Northwest part of the town. No damage.

Sept. 9th, 3, P. M.—Alarm from two-story dwelling House on Park Avenue, owned and occupied by J. Driscoll. The roof of the building was completely burned off, and the lower stories were badly drenched. Loss estimated at $500; fully insured. At this fire we think our firemen firmly established their reputation for promptness and efficiency.

Oct. 15th, 11 : 15, A. M.—Alarm from a small stable on Prospect Street, owned and occupied by Geo. M. Wethern. Loss (including a horse that was burned), $300 ; no insurance.

Nov. 5th, 11, A. M.—Alarm from house of William Carter, on Woburn Street. Damage trifling.

Nov. 16th, 7, P. M.—Alarm caused by burning brush in the South part of the town. No damage.

Dec. 6th, 3 : 30, A. M.—Alarm from a large unoccupied French-roof House near the Highland Station, owned by Oscar Foote.

Owing to the bad state of the roads, this house was nearly consumed before the arrival of the department, and from all appearances it was the work of an incendiary. Loss, $3500; fully insured.

March 10th, 1878.—Alarm from the Baptist Church, on Salem Street, caused by fire in the chimney. Extinguished without the aid of the Engines. No damage.

Total number of alarms, 8; total loss, $4300,—all of which was covered by insurance, except the stable of Mr. Wethern.

We have in the department two good hand engines, three hose carriages, one hook and ladder truck, and about two thousand feet of hose, all of which is in good order and condition. The force of the department consists of one hundred and sixteen men, and our thanks are due them for the faithful manner in which they have performed their duties; but one great source of annoyance to our firemen is the lighting of brush fires after dark, thus creating needless alarms, and we respectfully suggest to such of our citizens who may have occasion to burn rubbish, to notify some one of the Board of Engineers previous to lighting such a fire. We are of the opinion that the town should, at the earliest moment, take measures to increase their supply of water for the extinguishing of fires. The town has done well in that direction, for the past few years, but there are localities which are sadly in need of reservoirs, among which are the following: Mount Vernon Street, near J. W. Coburn's; Ash Street, near P. Jaquith's; Summer Street, near S. E. Parker's; West Street, near Preston Richardson's; and High Street, near James A. Bancsoft's,—and we recommend that the town make an appropriation annually for one cistern or reservoir until such time as we shall be fortified at all points. Another matter to which we wish to call your attention is the want of a bell on the School House or Engine House at the West part of the town. On one or two occasions the Engine Company located there have been delayed in consequence of not getting the alarm promptly. A bell on either of those buildings would obviate that difficulty, in a great measure, and we recommend an appropriation for that purpose. The amount of money expended the past year on account of the department has been as follows:—

Paid Members of Department for services to May 1, 1877,	$1246	31
Chas. H. Lang for services as Chief Engineer to May 1, 1877,	25	00
Chas. H. Danforth for services as Assistant Engineer to May 1, 1877,	12	00
E. C. Nichols for services as Assistant Engineer from May 1, 1875, to May 1, 1877,	24	00
Dainel Creesy for services as Assistant Engineer to May 1, 1877,	12	00
David Crowell, for services as Assistant Engineer to May 1, 1877,	12	00
Wm. H. Bancroft for services as Steward to Hancock Engine Co. from August 1, 1876, to August 1, 1877,	48	00
C. C. Cummings for services as Steward to Eagle Engine Co. from November 1, 1876, to November 1, 1877,	60	00
Fred Baker for services as Steward to Hook and Ladder Co., to May 1, 1877,	5	00
Chas. H. Lang, Express Charges,	3	45
Geo. W. Simmons & Son for 13 overcoats for firemen,	58	50
Geo. W. Simmons & Sons for 13 pairs duck overalls,	9	75
Garfield & Co. for numbering coats,	2	50
F. O. Dewey & Co. for lanterns,	1	33
Amos McIntire for painting Eagle Engine House,	46	00
Hunneman & Co. for hose, &c.,	43	75
Robert P. Burgess for mason work on Eagle Engine House,	8	50
J. O. Hollis & Co. for locks and keys,	4	62
H. E. Cox for drawing Hooks and Ladders to fire in Woburn,	2	00
P. McCall for straps, &c.,	4	45
Amount carried forward,	$1629	16

Amount brought forward,		$1629 16
Paid G. W. Atkinson for oil,	94	
M. A. Stone for oil,	2 17	
Bancroft & Temple repairing platform and drawing Engine to fire,	2 66	
Daniel Creesy for labor and sundries,	29 62	
John A. Blunt for repairs,	8 62	
T. Littlefield for Stove Pipe for Engine House No. 4,	2 00	46 02
		$1675 18
Amount unexpended,		24 82
" appropriated,		$1700 00

We think that the expenses of the department, for the ensuing year, will not exceed seventeen hundred ($1700) dollars, and we recommend that sum to be appropriated.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES H. LANG, Chief Engineer,

E. C. NICHOLS,
GEO. H. PARKER,
D. CREESY,
J. DEWHURST,
} Assistants.

GEO. H. PARKER, Clerk.

Reading, March 22d., 1878.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Trustees of the Reading Public Library.

The Trustees of the Reading Public Library herewith present their tenth annual report. Our finance account stands as follows: —

RECEIPTS.

Town appropriation,	$300 00		
Tax paid by owners of dogs,	183 02		
Fines,	31 36		
Sale of cards,	6 85		
catalogues,	5 60		
Waste paper,	24		
Balance from 1877,	6 05	$533	12

PAYMENTS.

Purchase of books,	$206 21		
Binding,	37 40		
Services of Librarian,	102 50		
Rent, fuel, lights, &c.,	150 00		
Insurance,	25 00		
Sundries,	9 35		
Balance on hand,	2 66	533	12

The Library has been increased during the year by the purchase of 150 volumes, of which 33 were to supply the place of books worn out. Donations have been received as follows: —

From Macmillan & Co.,	1	vol.
E. Appleton,	1	"
Miss Annie Appleton,	4	"
F. H. Knight,	28	"
Mrs. S. Colby,	6	"
State of Mass.,	17	"
Hon. C. D. Wright,	8	"
Stephen Foster, Esq.,	4	"
Other donations,	3	"
	72	"

The circulation during the year has been greater than during the year previous and has amounted to 14,700 volumes.

Owing to complaints that "certain rings" get possession of some of the most interesting books and keep them within their control until each member of the ring has read them, thus preventing a general circulation, the Trustees have adopted a regulation that allows no person to take out books except for himself and for members of his immediate family, and said person cannot draw for himself and family, whatever the number of persons it contains, more than four books in any one day, In order that families may be held to a stricter responsibilitiy in regard to careful usage of books, the Trustees have decided that the head of every family shall be held accountable for the payment of all damages caused by any member of his family to any library book, and for all fines incurred by them, and no family may draw a book as long as such damages and fines are unpaid.

The adoption and enforcement of the preceding requirements have operated favorably, as the better condition of the books conclusively shows.

The terms of Messers. Appleton and Dewey, as trustees expire this spring, necessitating a new election to fill the vacancies.

Respectfully submitted,

E. APPLETON, Chairman.

F. O. DEWEY,
STEPHEN FOSTER,
HORACE G. WADLIN,
WILLIAM PROCTOR,
HIRAM BARRUS,
} Trustees

Reading, March, 1878.

Report of Cemetery Committee.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Balance on hand as per last report,		95	
Drawn from Town Appropriaton,,		350 00	
Received from sale of lots,		115 00	
Received for wood,		36 00	$501 95
Paid for completion of wall and other work commenced last year,	$92 00		
capstones for wall,	57 50		
labor in cemetery,	313 50	463 00	
Balance in hands of Committee,			$38 95

F. O. DEWEY,
F. H. KNIGHT,
G. C. GLEASON,
W. S. RICHARDSON,
T. B. PRATT,
S. BANCROFT,
} COMMITTEE.

READING, March, 1878.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

ROAD COMMISSIONERS.

In making their annual report your Commissioners would recommend the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars for ordinary repairs, three hundred for bridges, and three hundred for clearing snow.

The receipts and expenses have been as follows: viz.,

ORDINARY REPAIRS.

Paid George Beasley, keeper of Almshouse, for labor in 1876, - -	$73	25	
Charles A. Weston, for labor in 1876,	31	72	104 97
George Beasley, labor of self and team, 1877,	77	01	
John A. Blunt, labor, - - -	10	22	
Henry S. LaClair, labor, - - -	189	30	
" " for team, - -	106	20	
" " " material, - -		43	
Webster Eames, for labor, - -	10	50	
Edwin P. Nichols, " - -	3	75	
Orin N. Jones, " - -	56	32	
D. Marshall Nichols, " - -	8	25	
Michael Forbes, labor of man and team,	79	20	
Daniel Nichols, labor, - -	9	75	
Henry Deadman, " - -	16	50	
Augustus Fultz, " - -	7	50	
Richmond Haselton, " - -	18	00	
N. E. Hill, gravel, - -	9	12	
Timothy Canty, labor of man and team,	38	70	
James A. Bancroft, labor, - -	18	60	
George Ballard, " - -	18	00	
Amount carried forward,			$677 35

Amount brought forward,			$782 32
Paid Jacob Jones,	labor,	3 05	
Warren Hayward,	"	37 65	
Ames Gowing,	gravel,	20 00	
Alexander Nelson,	labor,	86 35	
Nathan Carter,	"	2 00	
Waldo J. Bessey,	"	23 25	
Emerson Smith,	"	141 13	
Eliab C. Jones,	"	69 30	
Wm. G. Nichols,	labor of man and team,	29 85	
"	for gravel,	9 20	
G. W. Atkinson,	for tools.	1 55	
J. Breck & Sons,	"	1 20	
Clarence J. Nichols,	for labor,	52 95	
Richard D. Wilkins,	"	3 50	
" "	use of tools,	1 75	
" "	covering stone,	15 50	
Tristram Littlefield,	labor,	15	
James Wilkins,	"	3 50	
William Holmes,	"	8 25	
N. W. C. Carter,	"	4 05	
J. B. Nichols,	" of man and team,	49 95	
O. A. Swain,	"	84 07	
Eastman Austin,	"	57 90	
John Mellen,	"	83 70	
Francis Clark,	"	13 50	
Geo. H. Porter,	" self and team,	25 50	
Charles A. Weston,	"	111 60	
" "	" of teams,	127 65	
" "	for gravel,	2 75	
W. W. Davis,	"	2 85	
R. C. Totten,	labor,	5 47	
J. M. Eames,	"	1 00	
Timothy Rierdon,	"	93 98	
J. W. Manning,	for gravel,	11 25	
R. B. Nichols,	labor, self and team,	20 55	
C. H. Moulton,	"	3 75	
" "	covering stone,	90	
Noble Bunker,	labor,	44 40	1254 95
Amount carried forward,			$2037 32

Amount brought forward,				$2037 32
Paid Robert A. Harmon,	labor self and team,		75 00	
R. M. Boyce,	" " " -		45 80	
Bancroft & Temple,	" man and team,		16 50	
" "	lumber, - -		4 76	
Benj. F. Pratt,	labor, - -		18 15	
James Sullivan,	" - -		8 25	
F. M. Turner,	" - -		4 50	
Wm. L. Jones,	" self and team,		19 60	
Daniel Sullivan,	" - -		82 20	
Patrick Barrett,	" - -		53 20	
Charles Spear,	gravel, - -		8 52	
A. J. Varney,	stone, - -		50	
Mathew Hanley,	gravel, - -		35 20	
C. H. Lang,	labor, - -		25	
Albert Nichols,	gravel, - -		14 50	
G. A. Jones,	labor of team, -		1 50	
Howard W. Batchelder,	labor, - -		4 35	
Arthur G. Emerson,	labor, - -		3 75	
Albert F. Emerson,	labor self and team, -		28 50	
Asa Parker,	" "		3 20	
D. W. Pratt,	" - -		6 00	
S. T. Sweetser,	" - -		40	
J. A. Smith,	" - -		22 95	
C. H. Swain,	" - -		14 25	
F. J. Bancroft,	" - -		21 00	
George Richardson,	" - -		4 65	
P. H. Jaquith,	covering stone, - -		3 50	
Benj. Newell's Heirs,	gravel, - -		15 82	
T. F. Gould,	labor, - -		9 10	
W. W. Blanchard,	" - -		3 00	
William Smith,	" - -		1 50	
Henry Gorus,	" - -		11 25	
B. M. Boyce,	gravel, - -		9 10	
Charles Wakefield,	labor, - -		4 75	
" "	gravel, - -		1 30	
Dodge, Gilbert & Co.,	tools, - -		3 10	
Whittemore Brothers,	" - -		2 00	
Cummings' Express,	labor, - -		30	
Parker & Stone,	tools, - -		60	562 75
				$2600 07

Amount expended, - , -				$2600 07
Credit by cash received of	Thos. J. Mayall, for gravel, -	$38 22		
" "	A. P. Damon, for labor and stone, -	3 25		
" "	Moses Bancroft, for loam,	3 00		
" "	Michael Forbes, for stone,	3 50		
" "	R. M. Boyce, "	1 00		
" "	Wm. W. Phillips, for loam,	14 00		
" "	J. B. Leathe, "	14 75		
" "	R. Coggin, "	12 00		
" "	Collins, "	1 75		
" "	C. P. Weston. "	3 60		
" "	C. H. Moulton, "	3 00		
" "	Parker & Stone, "	1 50		100 07
Appropriation, - - - -				$2500 00

CLEARING SNOW, 1876–7.

Paid Henry S. LaClair, labor, - - -	$20 25		
Edwin P. Nichols, " - - -	2 52		
Michael Forbes, " - - -	1 04		
D. P. Babb, " - - -	1 00		
William Holmes, " - - -	2 60		
N. W. C. Carter, " - - -	4 80		
John Mellen, " - - -	1 57		
Francis Clark, " - - -	52		
Charles A. Weston, " - - -	56 49		
S. M. Pratt, " - - -	3 60		
J. M. Eames, " - - -	5 25		
Henry Goodwin, " - - -	5 25		
James Wilson, " - - -	6 30		
Timothy Rierdon, " - - -	25		
R. B. Nichols. " - - -	16 93		
C. H. Moulton, " - - -	50 19		
Charles Wakefield, " - - -	7 30		$185 86
Unexpended, - - -			14 14
Appropriation, - - -			$200 00

CLEARING SNOW, 1877-8.

Paid George Beasley, labor,		$20 00
H. S. LaClair,	"	13 60
Michael Forbes,	"	30
Warren Hayward,	"	75
Emerson Smith,	"	3 75
Wm. G. Nichols,	"	7 30
O. A. Swain,	"	2 70
John Mellen,	"	2 65
C. A. Weston,	"	30 52
"	snow plows,	3 45
R. C. Totten,	"	5 00
J. M. Eames,	labor,	4 05
Henry Goodwin,	"	1 65
James Wilson,	"	5 25
Timothy Rierdon,	"	3 75
Chas. H. Moulton,	"	39 72
Bancroft & Temple,	snow plow,	2 25
James Sullivan,	labor,	2 55
Daniel Sullivan,	"	30
Patrick Barrett,	"	2 40
H. W. Batchelder,	"	3 50
A. F. Emerson,	"	6 00
D. W. Pratt,	"	1 50
F. J. Bancroft,	"	15
Geo. W. Batchelder,	"	2 25
S. R. Roby,	"	6 45
N. W. Broad,	"	1 50
Robert Costello,	"	6 60
R. B. Nichols,	"	7 80
Alden Johnson,	"	2 70
Loring Weston,	"	60
Geo. Richardson,	"	1 35
Warren Temple,	"	75
Albert James,	"	1 05
Joseph Bancroft,	"	60
J. E. Eames,	"	30
F. G. Nichols,	"	75
Bradley Bancroft,	"	45
Amount carried forward,		$196 24

Amount brought forward,			$196 24
Paid James Dewhurst, labor,		30	
Daniel Creesy, " and stock for snow plow,		8 72	
Amos McIntire, "		3 00	
B. C. Clark, "		2 70	
Hiram Litchfield, "		2 00	
John Fluke, "		60	
Miller, "		75	
Curtis, Davis & Co., "		13 00	
Wm. L. Jones, "		9 80	
R. M. Boyce, "		3 00	
E. P. Nichols, "		2 63	
Augustus Fultz, "		60	
William Holmes, "		2 70	49 80
			$246 04
Unexpended,			3 96
Appropriation,			$250 00

BUILDING ASH STREET SIDEWALK.

Paid Geo. Beasley, labor, self and team,		$16 20	
Emerson Smith, "		10 32	
J. Breck & Sons, rake,		1 25	
William R. Perkins, gravel,		13 60	
R. D. Wilkins, covering stone,		3 20	
O. A. Swaiu, labor,		8 85	
John Mellen, "		9 45	
C. A. Weston, " self and teams,		22 20	
R. C. Totten, "		1 58	
Timothy Rierdon, labor,		8 85	
Patrick Barrett, "		11 02	
Waldo Bros., drain pipe,		9 00	
C. H. Moulton, covering stone,		50	
C. H. Swain, labor,		8 10	
A. S. Stevens, " self and team,		14 70	
Cummings Express, labor,		1 50	$140 32
Unexpended,			9 68
Appropration,			$150 00

BUILDING BERKELEY STREET (SO CALLED).

Paid John A. Blunt, labor,			$1 71	
George Beasley, "	self and team,		21 75	
Emerson Smith, "			14 44	
O. A. Swain, "			10 12	
John Mellen, "			12 75	
C. A. Weston, "	self and teams,		43 60	
"	gravel,		55	
R. C. Totten,	labor,		1 08	
J. M. Eames "			9 00	
Timothy Rierdon, "			11 62	
R. A. Harmon, "	self and team,		13 50	
James Sullivan, "			3 00	
Daniel Sullivan, "			12 37	
Patrick Barrett, "			14 44	
Edwin Bassett, gravel,			1 20	
Parker & Stone, "			1 70	
M. A. Stone, powder,			50	
C. H. Swain, labor,			10 87	$184 20
Unexpended,				15 80
Appropriation,				$200 00

There is due George Beasley, keeper of Alms House, - - - $108 79

" Town of North Reading, for repairs of Bridges, - - 33 40

JAMES A. BANCROFT,
CHARLES A. WESTON,
HENRY S. LaCLAIR,
} Road Commissioners of Reading.

Reading, March 1st, 1878.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Committee

OF THE

TOWN OF READING,

FOR THE YEAR 1877–8.

REPORT.

The General Statutes of Massachusetts—Chap. 40, Sec. 6,—provide that the School Committees of the "several cities and towns shall annually make a detailed report of the condition of the several public schools, which report shall contain such statements and suggestions in relations to the schools as the Committe deem necessary or proper to promote the interests thereof."

In order to comply with this statute, the School Committe for the year closing March, 1878, hereby submit their annual report :

GENERAL CONDITION OF SCHOOLS.

We believe the schools, as a whole, have made good progress during the past year, and are in a more satisfactory condition than they were one year ago. Although some have excelled in methods of dicipline and instruction, we think none have fallen below the average standard of last year.

In giving this opinion we would not imply that our schools have reached so high a degree of excellence, that it is wise or safe to do away with constant efforts for their improvement. On the contrary, we are confident that unless Committee, teachers, and parents heartily co-operate in their behalf, progress will not be made. Judging from actual experience in visiting the schools in the vicinity, however, we affirm with confidence that our schools will compare favoraly with those of other towns.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

The town has eight school buildings, all of which are in good condition considering the number of years they have been occupied.

As stated in our last report, it is the policy of the committee to put one building in thorough repair each year. In pursuance of that policy the Walnut Street house has been painted throughout, and the entries sheathed.

It was also found necessary to lay a new floor in the Main Street building, and paint the interior. The walls and ceiling of the High

School room, which had become much discolored were neatly tinted during the summer vacation. The black-boards in every building--except at Lowell St.*--have been put in thorough repair and covered with liquid slating.

In contracting for repairs, the committee have adopted the plan which they would use in their private business. All good mechanics are allowed to estimate upon the work, which is awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. By this method money is saved to the town and the contracts freed from any suspicion of "Tweedism."

We think it is not too much to say that our School buildings have not been in better condition for nearly ten years, than at present. The committee are fortunate in having two members who can attend personally to all repairs.

COURSE OF STUDY.

Our course of study remains as presented in our last report, except a few slight modifications. We shall change it from time to time as occasion requires, or whenever we think it can be improved.

We wish to call special attention to this programme of studies, as there is so much agitation of the public mind, at the present time, in regard to the practical usefulness of the public schools, and because there seems to be a misconception on the part of some of our citizens. as to the studies pursued. Especially is this true in regard to the course in our High School.

It does not seem to be understood that the chief feature of this course, is the prominence given to what may be termed purely English branches,—that a pupil entering the school can do so without preparation in Latin, French, or any foreign language ; and may continue until the end of the course, and graduate with honor without the stndy of any language, save his vernacular. This has been the case for the past three or four years, and yet, notwithstanding the fact has been stated from time to to time in our reports, the committe have received application from parents during the last year, for the excuse of their children from the study of Latin or French. This shows conclusively to us that some of our citizens, thoughtlessly we believe, place too much confidence in idle remarks dropped by persons not conversant with the facts.

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* It will probably be found necessary to replaster this room during the ensuing year. Anticipating this, in was deemed unadvisable to repair the black boards until afterwards.

The committee at all times, welcome criticism based upon sound premises. For our Schools can be improved only through candid criticism and careful study of the results already reached. If we have ardently defended any course which we have pursued, or repelled any suggestions made by parents or persons interested, let it not be construed as unwillingness to listen to just criticism, but ascribe to our zealous interest in the cause of education.

In defence of what we believe to be the facts, we would say, that the arguments used at the State House, and elsewhere, in regard to the multiplicity and unpractical character of the studies pursued in the public schools, would not apply to our course of instruction ; for we have not a single study that even Mr. Dunham, of Pittsfield,—the champion of school reform in the present legislature—would eliminate. On the contrary we do not require some which he would retain.

We believe that the aim of common school education should be to fit for the world and not the college ; and to do this we should strive to give the pupil a sound mind in a robust body,—a mind developed and trained to use its powers, a body fitted to endure labor and fatigue. Good morals, good manners, judgment, and discretion should be taught first, and are most important ; intelligence and intellectual activity—the development of the faculties, next ; and actual knowledge last of all. And with reference to the subjects taught, we would say with John Locke : " Those branches of knowledge which concern *things* should take precedence of those which consist of *abstract ideas*."

" The highest end of education," says Sir. William Hamilton, " is not to dictate truths, but to stimulate exertion ; since the mind is not invigorated, developed, in a word *educated*, by the mere possession of truths, but by the energy determined in their quest and contemplation." And Dr. Thomas Arnold, one of the greatest practical teachers of the present century, speaking in the same vein, says : " The effort that a boy makes, is a hundred times more valuable to him than the knowledge acquired as the result of the effort. All that a school education teaches, beyond imparting a certain small stock of knowledge, *is the way to learn*." To the words of these distinguished scholars, we make no apology for adding this quotation from Herbert Spencer :

" To prepare us for complete living is the function which education has to discharge, and the only rational mode of judging of an educational course, is to judge in what degree it discharges this function. For complete living we must know in what way to treat the

body ; in what way to manage our affairs ; in what way to treat the mind ; in what way to bring up a family ; in what way to behave as a citizen ; in what way to utilize those sources of happiness which nature supplies ; how to use all our faculties for the greatest advantage to ourselves and others. . . . . To test the value of the learning imparted in education, we must look to the *end* of education."

PROMOTIONS.

At the beginning of the fall term, promotions were made in each grade, based upon the results of the monthly examinations given during the year by the teachers, taken in connection with a final examination from questions prepared by the committee.

Several pupils did not reach the required standard and were not promoted. In fixing this standard the committee were moved by an earnest desire for the welfare, both of individual pupils and the schools as a whole, and we cannot refrain from returning our acknowledgments to the parents of unsuccessful pupils for the spirit in which they have uniformly received the decision of the committee.

In every case the result was cheerfully accepted, and an apparent wish to co-operate with the committee was manifested.

The matter of promotions is one of the most embarassing duties requiring our attention ; and it is gratifying to feel that our efforts to perform this duty with fairness, and so as to secure the highest good of every pupil, are received with evident appreciation of our motives and aims.

TEACHERS.

Miss E. F. Wheelock, of the Woburn St. Grammar school, who had taught acceptably and who gave promise of still greater success, resigned at the beginning of the year to accept a more lucrative situation in Norwood.

Miss Kate L. Tower, succeeded Miss Keith as assistant in the High School. Miss Hattie Clement has had charge of the Upper Medium School, during the temporary absence of Miss Foster, teaching successfully. No other changes have occurred in the administration of our schools.

No greater misfortune can befall a school, than to lose a conscientious teacher who is constantly improving its standard, and who realizes the importance of her work ; and we feel it to be our duty to remind the town that we are constantly in danger of losing our best teachers through offers of higher salaries from neighboring towns.

"A teacher," says Edward Everett, "ought to know of everything much more than the learner can be expected to acquire. The teacher must know things in a masterly way, curiously, nicely, and in their reasons. He must see the truth under all its aspects, with its antecedents and consequents; or he cannot present it in just that shape in which the growing mind can comprehend it. He must, as he holds the diamond up to the sun, turn its facets round and round, till the pupil catches its lustre."

The committee most emphatically assent to the opinion of that eminent scholar and statesman. While we believe our teachers as a body cannot be excelled by any of the same grade elswhere, yet we are conscious when we compare them, one with another, of a difference which exists between them,—a difference not of natural capacity or special genius, nor of superior training at institutions of learning, but rather of power acquired by diligent study of mind and matter in connection with teaching, in visiting other schools, and in constant reading with reference to their work.

To achieve the highest success, the teacher must of necessity possess a thorough knowledge of the subject which is to be taught, and must be fully imbued with an ardent desire to impart it—and not to impart it simply, but to arouse that enthusiasm which begets a love for knowledge and perseverance in the pursuit of it.

Books give information, but a thoroughly earnest teacher adds character, importance,—all the elements of personality, to what without these remains a mere lifeless mass of words and facts.

The committee intend in their promotion of teachers, to select those whom they have reason to believe most devoted to their work —provided they have the success which usually accompanies persistent effort. Thus we shall fulfil the object for which we were elected: the attainment of higher excellence in our schools. For 'as the teacher, so is the school,' will always be true.

HIGH SCHOOL.

Twenty-one pupils graduated from the High School in June, and received the regular diploma.

Ten remain to pursue the advanced course.

The graduation exercises were more varied in character than usual, and were consequently more interesting.

We cannot pass over this topic without referring to the burdensome and unnecessary expense which has come to attend these exercises. The display of dress and flowers constantly increases.

That this has a tendency to disturb the usefulness of the school we cannot doubt. The evil effects attending it have not, we are certain, been considered by the classes themselves. It is no doubt a legitimate outgrowth of the habits of extravagance which have pervaded society. But those who have received the training which should come from the public schools, should be among the first to manifest a different spirit; and that they will wish to do so we feel sure, if they will consider the matter in all its bearings. The committee have passed the following resolution, to which they call attention.

"The school committee look with disfavor upon the unnecessary and extravagant expense incurred for dress, flowers &c., by members of the senior classes at the graduation exercises of the High School. They regard the spirit which prompts this display as wrong, and feel that the interests of the school suffer by its indulgence. Unless a reform is brought about, it may be necessary to abolish the public graduation altogether.

At the same time they believe that such a reform should be effected by the efforts of the parents and pupils immediately interested, without the coercion of this board. Therefore be it resolved:

That the attention of the senior class of the High School be called to our sentiments upon this subject, and that the earnest co-operation of parents and pupils be requested in bringing about the needed change."

Much has been said in regard to the ability of our High School graduates to earn a livelihood after graduation, without help from some other institution; and that they cannot teach without other preparation. To show conclusively that the facts are otherwise we append to this report a list of all graduates since 1869, with the occupation so far as ascertained.

The names of all who have had the advantage of attending other schools since graduation are marked by a star in this list, and we would remark that out of fifteen teachers now employed by the town, *ten*—including some of the best—have received no instruction beyond that obtained in the High School.

GRAMMAR AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

Without detracting from the importance or usefulness of the High School, we believe the Grammar and Primary Schools to be in a wider sense the schools of the people.

This is not so strikingly true among us, as in some other towns of the Commonwealth, for a larger perct. of our pupils enter the High School, than is common in many places.

Still the standard of the High School itself, depends in large measure upon the character of the lower grades, and they merit, and have received, a large share of our attention.

The committee introduced the "*Nursery*," as a reader for the first class in the Union street Lower Primary. The books were owned by the town, and were intended to be kept in the school for the use of the first class from year to year. They were received with so much eagerness and pleasure by the pupils, however, that many parents desired to purchase them. We should be glad to place copies in every Primary class in town.

EXPENSES AND ESTIMATES.

We are glad to report an unexpended balance of $78.87.

Less expense than usual has been incurred this year for fuel, owing to the mild winter ; and some money has been saved by changes in the salaries of teachers. Attention is asked to a table in the Appendix showing the retrenchment effected since 1874.

Thanking the town for its liberality in the past, we believe these figures justify us in asking its confidence for the future. If instruction in music be discontinued, we think the sum of $8000.00 will be sufficient for the maintenance of the schools during the ensuing year, and we recommend the appropriation of $700.00 for incidentals. Mindful of the need of retrenchment which is felt by every community, we have reduced our estimates, $800.00, as will be seen ; and if the amounts recommended are appropriated we shall endeavor to use them with judgment and discretion, expending no more than we feel to be required for maintaining the efficiency of the schools.

The improvement of the Walnut Street school grounds has been begun and carried on without expense to the town, and the committee have received for gravel removed, the sum of $105.50, which has been paid into the treasury.

The terms of Messrs. Bancroft and Dole expire, leaving two vacancies to be filled at the ensuing annual meeting.

Attention is invited to the matter contained in the Appendix.

Respectfully Submitted :

WALTER S. PARKER, Chairman,
SOLON BANCROFT,
WILLIAM F. DURGIN,
W. WALLACE DAVIS,
GEORGE T. DOLE,
HORACE G. WADLIN, Secretary.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF READING.

READING, MARCH, 14. 1878.

APPENDIX.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Population of Reading	3186
Number of Children between 5 and 15 years of age, May, 1877	454
Amt. appropriated for instruction, fuel, and care of rooms,	$8500 00
" " " incidentals	1000 00
" received from the State School Fund	204 94
Total receipts for support of schools	9704 94
Expended for instruction, fuel, and care of rooms	8266 07
" " incidentals	730 00
Total expenditures	8996 07
Balance unexpended	708 87

PUPILS.

Whole number of pupils enrolled during year	550
Average whole number (from returns of each term)	511
* Average daily attendance	457
Number of pupils admitted to High School	37
Average age " " "	14 yrs, 6 mos.
Average number of pupils to each teacher in High School	45
" " " Centre Grammar Schools	38
" " " " Medium Schools	30
" " " " Primary Schools	48
" " Lowell and Walnut St. Mixed Schools	26

Length of Terms: 1st, 13 weeks; 2d, 12 weeks; 3d, 14 weeks.

NAMES OF PUPILS GRADUATING FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL, JUNE 1877.

Marion E. H. Barrows,
Jennie P. Corkins,
Lucy H. Damon,
Jennie L. Eames,
Carrie W. Goodwin,
Nellie L. Hill,
Sarah M. Pearson,
Euley M. Sawyer,
C. Estella Bachelder,
Clara L. Damon,
Emma F. Dow,
Hattie C. Emerson,
Jessie B. Grouard,
Mary W. Howard,
Helen I. Ruggles,
Henry W. Hyde,
Charles H. Parker,
William E. Manning,
Henry C. Parker,
Fred W. Vermill,
Walter F. Willcox.

* Reduced by prevalence of Whooping cough.

LIST OF COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS, 1877-8.

High School,—The Entire Committee.
First Grammar,—Mr. Wadlin.
Second Grammar,—Mr. Parker.
Third Grammar,—Mr. Bancroft.
Upper Medium,—Mr. Dole.
Lower Medium,—Mr. Durgin.
Upper Primary,—Mr. Wadlin.
Lower Primary,—Mr. Parker.
Walnut St. Mixed,—Mr. Bancroft.
Woburn St. Schools,—Mr. Durgin.
Lowell St. Mixed,—Mr. Davis.
Main St. Mixed,—Mr. Davis.
Haverhill St. Mixed,—Mr. Dole.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Giving the names of those who have not been absent or tardy since March, 1877, and the schools to which they belong.

HIGH SCHOOL.

Alice O. Dow,
Nina E. Morrill,
Josie E. Melendy,
Helen M. Barrows,
*Hannah E. Hibbert,
Emma Adden,
Frank Kendall,
Emma F. Adams,
Wm. O. Richardson,
Minnie Eaton,
Nellie A. LaClair,
Emma Manning,
Mina Knight,
Kate Perry,
Jessie Pendergrace,
*George E. Howes,
William Horton,
Minnie K. Eames,
Fred. B. Smith,
Mattie Wilkins,
Warren Manning.

FIRST GRAMMAR.

Edea R. Beers,
Agnes H. Forbes,
Lydia A. Holden,
Hattie M. Chase,
Mary A. Graves,
*Sylvina Moulton.

SECOND GRAMMAR.

Martha E. Babb,
Laura E. Clark,
M. Idabelle Beard,
Hattie F. Damon,

* Neither absent nor tardy for two years.

Hattie C. Eaton, Annie F. Goodridge,
Annie C. Lawrence, *Annie M. Moulton,
Laura C. Melendy, Fred. N. Bunker,
Arthur T. McKay, Charles F. Reid,
Frederick A. Willcox.

THIRD GRAMMAR.

Hattie B. Lewis, Emma M. Damon,
Abbie J. Eames, *Kate M. Trowe,
Charles E. Blood, *Walter M. Kingman.

UPPER MEDIUM.

George G. Gilman, John B. Lewis,
*Hattie Walker, *Grace L. Parker.

UNION ST. UPPER PRIMARY.

George L. Mellen, Edward W. Perry,
George F. Dow, Ida Manning,
S. Ella Parker, H. Mabel Parker.

WALNUT ST. SCHOOL.

Hattie E. Austin, Rose Meuse,
Ellsworth McAllister.

LOWELL ST. SCHOOL.

Emma S. Hutchinson.

MAIN ST. SCHOOL.

Fannie A. LaClair, Susan R. Nichols,

HAVERHILL ST. SCHOOL.

C. Clyde Wakefield.

The following pupils have not been absent for the year, and have been tardy once only :

Jennie Harnden, - - - -	First Grammar.
Lydia F. Cummings, - - -	Second "
Lizzie L. Walker, - Parker J. Gowing,	Third "
Harry W. Elliott, - - - -	Upper Medium.

*Neither absent nor tardy for two years.

TABLE SHOWING SALARIES, ATTENDANCE, AND NUMBER OF VISITORS.

NAMES OF SCHOOLS.	Number of Visitors.	TEACHERS AT PRESENT EMPLOYED.	Salary now paid.	NUMBER OF PUPILS.			AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.			Under 5 years	OVER 15 YEARS.		
				1st term	2d term	3d term	1st term	2d term	3d term		1st term	2d term	3d term
High School,		Cyrus A. Cole, Principal,	$1500	91	89	92	89	86	86		71	69	69
		Miss Kate L. Tower, Ass't,	600										
First Grammar,	159	Jennie R. Barrus,	$13 pr wk.	27	28	31	24	27	28		10	14	15
Second Grammar,	145	Sarah L. Stoodley,	12 "	29	47	43	28	44	41		5		
Third Grammar.	64	Annie M. Knight,	12 "	54	42	41	51	40	38				1
Upper Medium,	86	Hattie A. Clement,†	10 "	34	38	38	31	33	31				
Lower Medium,	53	Addie B. Howes.	10 "	31	20	21	30	19	16				
Union St. Upper Primary,	94	Mrs. S. A. Goodridge,	10 "	39	50	50	36	46	41				
Union St. Lower Primary	138	Miss Ruth L Pratt,	10 "	63	44	39	50	34	21	9			
Walnut St. Mixed,*	67	Sadie R. Lindsay,	11 "	43	50	44	36	41	37				
Woburn St. Grammar,	34	L. F. Loring,	9 "	22	26	25	20	23	23				
Woburn St. Primary;	47	Evelyn Bancroft,	6 "	25	21	22	22	19	18	1			
Lowell St. Mixed,	62	Evelyn Barrows,	8.50	37	31	30	32	29	34		1	2	2
Main St. Mixed,	63	Mr. L. F. Elliott,	8 "	17	15	17	15	14	14		3		1
Haverhill St. Mixed,	38	Miss Z. A Wakefield,	6 "	9	9	8	8	8	7		2	1	1
				521	510	501	472	463	435	10	92	86	89

* Miss V. P. Converse, temporary assistant, $1.50 per week.

† Teacher during absence of Miss E. S. Foster.

TABLE SHOWING RETRENCHMENT IN EXPENSES FOR SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS, SINCE 1874.

Amount expended for support of schools :

1874	- -	$10541 15		
1875	- -	9426 61	—decrease from previous year :	$1114 54
1876	- -	8361 30	" " " "	1065 31
1877	- -	8266 07	" " " "	95 23
Total decrease since 1874		- - -		$2275 08

There has been returned into the Treasury during these four years, an unexpended balance of appropriations amounting to - - - $1428 51

TABLE SHOWING AVERAGE COST PER PUPIL FOR TUITION IN EACH SCHOOL, 1877–8.

NAME OF SCHOOL.	AVERAGE NO. OF PUPILS.	AVERAGE COST PER PUPIL.
High School	91	$22 91
First Grammar,	29	16 95
Second Grammar,	40	11 55
Third Grammar,	46	10 04
Upper Medium,	37	10 63
Lower Medium,	24	16 39
Upper Primary,	46	8 55
Lower Primary,	49	7 99
Walnut Street Mixed.	46	10 12
Woburn Street Grammar,	24	14 96
Woburn Street Primary,	23	9 91
Lowell Street Mixed.	33	9 72
Main Street Mixed.	16	19 25
Haverhill Street Mixed.	9	26 59

Average cost per pupil, throughout the town, $13.68.

FINAL EXAMINATION FOR ADMISSION TO HIGH SCHOOL, GIVEN JUNE 1877.

The majority of applicants received the examination as here given. A few were, however, examined subsequently, involving some changes in the form of the questions.

EXAMINATION IN ARITHMETIC.

1. Numerator 42 3-4. Denom. 7 1-4. Value of fraction.

2. Add 22 1-2, 36 1-4, 58 2-8, 27, 59.

3. Reduce £10. 10d. to farthings.

4. Sq. root of 2025.

5. A room is 24 feet square : How much carpeting 3-4 yd. wide will cover the floor ?

6. Min. 10348690314. Sub. 964709568. Difference ?

7. Difference between 7-8 and 15-16 ?

8. Reduce 31-42 to a decimal.

9. Divide 95 by 8.

10. If 5 men build 20 rods of wall in 2 days, how long a wall will 3 men build in 10 days ?

11. Sq. root of 645.721.

12. Interest of $560.25 for 3y. 3m. 18d. at 7 per cent ?

13. What prin. will gain $100. in 5y. at 10 per cent. ?

14. Bought a horse for $280 and sold him for $270 : What per cent was lost ? Explain.

15. Amount of $500. from Mch. 18, 1868 to Jan. 18, 1872, at 8 per cent ?

16. How much will 12 ft. of wood cost at $8 per cord ?

17. A gallon contains 231 cu. in. of water : How many gallons in a cu. ft. ?

18. Bought 4000 bushels of wheat at $1.72 and sold the same at $1.52 : What per cent gained ?

19. What date is 7 m. 15 da. before July 15, 1861 ?

20. Find the interest of $320.40 for 11 d. at 8 per cent.

21. Find the least common multiple of 12, 16, 18, 24.

22. A bbl. of pork holding 200 lbs. is 3-5 full : How many lbs. would remain in it after 87 3-5 pounds were taken out ?

23. Answer either of the following :—

How many feet make a mile ?

How many rods in an acre ?

24. Define Ratio and illustrate.

25. Supply the missing term and form a proportion containing these three numbers. 5, 2 1-4, 25.

26. Taking one sq. yd. as the unit, how many units of surface in a floor 30 by 30 feet ?

27. Write a Promissory Note, negotiable by indorsement.

28. Through how many degrees of longitude will a place situated on any meridian pass in three hours ?

EXAMINATION IN GEOGRAPHY.

1. Define Geography.

2. Define Latitude.

3. Define Longitude.

4. If the Sun is directly over the meridian of Chicago, will it be forenoon or afternoon in Detroit ? Explain.

5. How wide is the Torrid Zone in degrees ?

6. Give a description of the physical features of N. A.

7. What is meant by the climate of a country ?

8. State the principal mineral products of the U. S. and the localities where found.

9. Name the principal articles which are imported, and state where they are obtained.

10. Name the four longest rivers of Europe, three of Asia--two of S. A.—one of Africa.

11. Locate five of the following places, and state anything of interest or importance connected with them :

Berlin, Versailles, Rome, Philadelphia, Odessa, St. Louis, Constantinople, Liverpool, Lowell, Gibraltar.

12. Name the bodies of water which border European Turkey.

13. Mention three of the most celebrated manufacturing cities of the globe and state what they manufacture.

14. Mention some of the British possessions and state in what country situated.

EXAMINATION IN GRAMMAR.

1. Decline *it*.

2. Compare *bad*, *easy*.

3. Write —"*It's time to go.*"

4. Write a short complex sentence.

5. *The book lay on the table.*—Parse *lay*.

6. *Lay the book on the table.*—Parse *lay*.

7. Write the possessive plural of *lady*, *men*, *dog*.

8. Analyze—"*The book containing the pictures was neatly bound in cloth.*"

9. Parse the predicate in the preceding.

10. *The boy did not look well :*

What part of speech is well ?

11. What is a word ?

12. What is a sentence ?

13. Inflect the future indicative of "*to be*"

14. Write a sentence containing either :

A perfect passive participle.

A sentence containing a participial noun, and a sentence containing the verb "*to see*," in the present-perfect, passive, 2d. plural.

15. Write a sentence containing a relative pronoun in the plural objective.

16. Synopsis of "*to go*," in the second plural.

17. *The book lay on the table standing by the window.*—Parse *lay*.

18. Parse *standing*.

19. Cross your — and dot your —.

20. *I wish him to speak more clearly.*

Parse *him*.

21. Parse *to speak*.

22. *Let each one take their books.*

Correct and give reason for the change.

23 *The boy stood erect*—Parse *erect*.

24. *Henry, will you lend me the book* your brother bought you?

Parse the words: *Henry*, *will*, and *lend*.

EXAMINATION IN HISTORY.

1. *Cortez, John and Sebastian Cabot, Cartier, Raleigh.* Select two of the preceding and state in regard to nationality, discoveries and other items of interest.

2. Give a brief description of the Aztecs, and Aborigines.

3. Mention six important dates between 1492 and 1800, and state for what each is noted.

4. State any causes that led to the founding of R. I. and Mass.

5. Name the thirteen original colonies in their order of settlement.

6. When and where did the the First Col. Congress meet? How many colonies were represented? When and where did the First Continental Congress meet?

7. In the early history of our country, what celebrated institutions of learning were founded?

8. What led to the French and Indian War? State result of war.

9. State some items of interest and importance in connection with Washington's Administration.

10. Make a brief statement respecting the purchase of Louisiana.

11. Describe Sherman's March to the Sea.

12. Write any items of interest or importance with regard to Lincoln. What in his life or character commends him to your respect or regard?

EXAMINATION IN SPELLING.

1. piteous,
2. judgment,
3. college,
4. separate,
5. hoeing,
6. apron,
7. vegetable,
8. balance,
9. seize,
10. sieve,
11. conscience,
12. arithmetic,
13. physiology,
14. Manila,
15. Mississippi,
16. receivable,
17. nuptials,
18. criticise,
19. principle,
20. farinaceous,
21. imminent,
22. colonel,
23. supersede,
24. secede,
25. mortgage,
26. Christmas,
27. vengeance,
28 illegible,
29. analysis,
30. dairy,
31. niece,
32. bouquet,
33. pigeon,
34. reindeer,
35. isthmus,
36. telegraph,
37. coral,
38. sphere,
39. genius,
40. martial,
41. scythe,
42. Britain,
43. scissors,
44. onion,
45. leopard,
46. Tuesday,
47. ancient,
48. cautious,
49. croquet,
50. pyramid,
51. people.
52. catarrh,
53. lilies,
54. visage,
55. squirrel,
56. banana,
57. cologne,
58. Massachusetts,
59. cushion,
60. kerosene,
61. ventilate,
62. ascertain,
63. sleigh,
64. sovereign,
65. chandelier,
66. telescope,
67. plausible,
68. microscope,
69. rapacity,
70. thieves,
71. nervous,
72. society,
73. crystal,
74. presence,
75. favorite,
76. hostile,
77. brilliant,
78. courage,
79. incessant,
80. ceaseless,
81. Philadelphia,
82. committee,
83, beautiful,
84. confidence,
85. biscuit,
86 happiness,
87. abundant,
88. business.
89. January,
90. Wednesday,
91. merciful,
92 mention,
93. beginning,
94. natural,
95. mighty,
96. righteous,
97. manifold,
98. dutiful,
99. mansion,
100. journey.

LIST OF GRADUATES OF HIGH SCHOOL SINCE 1869, WITH PRESENT OCCUPATION, SO FAR AS ASCERTAINED.

CLASS OF 1869.

A. Newell Howes,	Book-keeper.
Maria J. Bancroft,	Teacher.
*Alice L. Brown,	Married (formerly teacher.)
Phœbe G. Harnden.	
L. Maria Lovejoy,	Married.
*Abbie M. Parker,	" (formerly teacher.)
Abbie S. Perkins,	Teacher.
Celia Temple.	

CLASS OF 1870.

Ella F. Clark,	Dressmaker.
Ida George,	Married.
Anna M. Hutchins.	
*Herbert Barrows,	Civil Engineer.
*George H. Barrus.	Mechanical "
Frank E. Hutchins,	
Lizzie A. Burrill,	Married.
Margaret A. Clark,	
Lizzie B. Clark,	
M. Lizzie Day,	Teacher.

CLASS OF 1871.

Hannie L. Hill,	Teacher.
Sarah L. Stoodley,	"
Z. Abbie Wakefield,	"
Sarah A. Weston,	Married.
Nellie G. Willcox.	
*Frank E. Appleton,	Paymaster Gonic Mf'g Co.
*Wilder C. Moulton.	
William I. Ruggles,	Clerk.
*Arthur W. Temple,	Student.

CLASS OF 1872.

Ida L. Bassett,	Music Teacher.
Jennie R. Barrus,	Teacher.

Mary E. Bucke, - - - - - - Married.
Nellie Burrill.
Belle P. Dinsmoor.
Emma Eames, - - - - - - Married.
Mina W. Hall, - - - - - Dressmaker.
*Cynthea E. Hollis, - - - Teacher, Normal Art School.
Addie B. Howes, - - - - - - Teacher.
Lillian F. Loring, - - - - - - "
*L. Gertrude McIntire, - - - - - - "
Hattie A. Parker.
Lizzie M. Penny, - - - - - - Married.
Hattie B. Pratt, - - - - - - - "
*Minnie A. Willcox, - - Teacher, Boston High School.
Erestina Whittier, - - - - - Necktie-maker.
*Walter B. Barrows, - - Ward's Coll. of Nat. History.
H. Irving Converse.
Geo. Lewis Flint, School Com. and Selectman, North Reading.
*E. H. Gowing, - - - - Blake Pump Works.
Horace B. Holden, - - - - Leather Dealer.
Charles H. Hutchinson, - - - - Farmer, Kansas.

CLASS OF 1873.

*Morton Barrows, - - - - - Harvard College.
*Emma F. Eames, - - - Teacher, High Sch. N. Reading.
Nellie Minot.
Mary E. Nichols, - - - - - - Deceased.
Annie B. Parker, - - - - - - Has taught.
Florence Parker.
Ada Safford, - - - - - - - Clerk.
*Ella F. Wakefield, - Teacher,—at present Necktie-maker.
Ida R. Whittier, - - - - - - - "

CLASS OF 1874.

Marion E. Andrew.
*Nellie Bancroft, - - - - - - - Teacher.
A. Evelyn Barrows, - - - - - - "
Kate L Brown, - - - Bridgewater Normal School.
Sadie L. Dewey, - - - - - - - Married.
Ella M. Melendy, - - - - - - "
Sadie R. Lindsay, - - - - - - - Teacher.
*Cora M. Prescott.

*Mary L. Stinchfield, - - - - - Teacher.
Lucy Wheelock, - - Teacher Chauncey Hall School.
Lizzie E. Wilkins, - - - - Music Teacher.
Charles P. Foote, - - - - - - Clerk.
Oscar P. Foote, - - - - - - "
William F. Nichols, - - - - - Student.

CLASS OF 1875.

Evelyn C. Bancroft, - - - - - Teacher.
Mabelle I. Barden, - - - - Intends to Teach.
Alice Barrows, - - - - - Teacher.
Vestina P. Converse, - - - - - - "
Lillian F. Cummings.
A. Louise Elliott.
Gertrude R. Lovejoy.
Jennie T. Lovejoy.
Jessie E. McDonald, - - - - - Elocutionist.
Mary A. Marshall.
Lizzie A. Nash.
Florence A. Titus, - - - - Music Teacher.
Helen A. Whiting, - - - - Kindergarten School.
Arthur A. Damon, - - - - - Necktie Shop.
L. Forrester Elliott, - - - - Teacher.
Fred. Gerritson, - - - - - Machinist.
Henry E. Holden, - - - Leather Business.
Loea P. Howard, - - - Student (formerly taught.)
Abbott M. Hutchins, - - - - - Deceased.
Lawrence P. Loring, - - - Mason & Hamlin Organ wks.
George A. Manning, - - - Cabinet maker.
Fred H. Morton, - - - - - Student.
Clarence J. Nichols,
Justin Parker, - - - - Farm at the West.
Benjamin Smith,
Sumner A. Whittier, - - - - Necktie Shop.

CLASS OF 1876.

Lucy A. Barrows, - - - Private School, Boston.
Maria W. Carter, - - - " " "
Minnie L. Carter, - - - " " "
Lillian F. Gray,

Addie L. Nichols,	Elocutionist.
Fannie C. Nichols,	
Flora A. Niles,	
Jessie E. Stockwell,	Abbott Seminary, Andover.
Elmer J. Brown,	Clerk.
Fred E. Brown,	Boston Globe Office.
Clarence C. Knight,	California.
Fred W. Phillips,	Clerk.
William G. Willcox,	Student.

CLASS OF 1877.

Marion E. H. Barrows,	Advanced Class, High School.
Jennie P. Corkins,	Necktie-maker.
Lucy H. Damon,	
Jennie L. Eames,	At work at Newton.
Carrie W. Goodwin,	" "
Nellie L. Hill,	Advanced Class, High School.
Sarah M. Pearson,	
Euley M. Sawyer,	
C. Estella Bachelder,	
Clara L. Damon,	Advanced Class, High School.
Emma F. Dow,	
Harriet C. Emerson,	
Jessie B. Grouard,	Advanced Class, High School.
Mary W. Howard,	" "
Helen I. Ruggles,	Necktie-maker.
Henry W. Hyde,	Advanced Class, High School.
Charles H. Parker,	" "
Wm. E. Manning,	" "
Henry C. Parker,	Student.
Fred. W. Vermill,	Brush Factory.
Walter F. Willcox,	Advanced Class, High School.

Names marked with * indicate pupils who have entered other schools after graduating, before procuring employment. Nearly all who have done so, have ranked above the average in their entrance examination—one graduate entering the Annapolis Naval Academy standing first in his class.

Expenses of Schools.

HIGH SCHOOL.

Paid Mr. Cyrus A. Cole, principal, - -	$1500 00	
Miss Kate L. Tower, assistant, - -	584 62	
		$2084 62

FIRST GRAMMAR.

Paid Miss Jennie R. Barrus, for teaching, -	$491 66	

SECOND GRAMMAR.

Paid Miss Sarah L. Stoodley, for teaching, -	$462 00	

THIRD GRAMMAR.

Paid Miss Annie M. Knight, for teaching, -	$462 00	
		$1415 66

UPPER MEDIUM.

Paid Miss Evelyn S. Foster, for teaching, -	$163 33	
Miss Hattie Clement, " -	230 00	
		$393 33

LOWER MEDIUM.

Paid Miss Addie B. Howes, for teaching, -	$393 33	

UNION STREET UPPER PRIMARY.

Paid Mrs. Sarah A. Goodridge, for teaching, -	393 33	

UNION STREET LOWER PRIMARY.

Paid Miss Ruth L. Pratt, for teaching, -	$385 33	
Miss Annie B. Parker, substitute, -	6 00	
		$1177 99
Amount carried forward,		$5071 60

Amount brought forward,		$5071 60

WALNUT STREET SCHOOL.

Paid Miss Sadie R. Lindsay, for teaching, -	$419 33	
Miss Mary A. Lindsay, temporarary asst.,	25 00	
Miss Vestina P. Converse, " -	21 00	
		$465 33

WOBURN STREET SCHOOLS.

Paid Miss Lillian F. Loring, teaching Grammar School, - - - -	$358 97	
Miss Evelyn Bancroft, teaching Primary School, - - -	228 00	
		$586 97

LOWELL STREET SCHOOL.

Paid Miss Evelyn Barrows, for teaching, -	$321 00	

MAIN STREET SCHOOL.

Paid Mr. L. F. Elliott, for teaching, - -	$308 00	

HAVERHILL STREET SCHOOL.

Paid Miss Z. A. Wakefield, for teaching, -	$239 33	
		$868 33

MUSICAL INSTRUCTION.

Paid Ulmer H. Manning, for teaching, -	$300 00	
		$300 00

JANITORS.

Paid F. E. Brooks, Centre School buildings, -	$328 00	
Janitor, Walnut Street School, - -	51 87	
Woburn " " - -	67 25	
Lowell " " - -	32 75	
Main " " - -	30 00	
Haverhill " " - -	29 25	
		$539 12
Amount carried forward,		$7831 35

Amount brought forward,			$7831 35

FUEL.

Paid Charles H. Moulton, for coal,		$231 75	
Bancroft & Temple, "		35 00	
J. C. Gleason, "		14 00	
Town of Reading, for wood,		117 37	
Labor on wood,		36 60	
			$434 72
Total amount expended,			$8266 07
" Unexpended,			438 87
Appropriation,	$8500 00		$8704 94
Received from State Fund,	204 94		
	$8704 94		

INCIDENTAL SCHOOL EXPENSES.

Paid J. L. Hammett, for crayons	$13 50	
A. W. Lovering, for " Nurseries",	11 25	
N. W. Broad, labor and materials,	58 88	
W. W. Davis, expenses procuring teacher,	3 65	
Citizens Gas Light Co., gas at High School, evening instruction, two years,	33 75	
Chas. H. ,expressing two years,	12 25	
Henry McElwin, slating blackboards,	100 00	
Nichols & Hall, record books	1 20	
D. M. Nichols, for ink,	3 87	
Hill & Co., printing report cards, and programmes for High School graduation,	29 60	
A. W. Danforth, books for desks and pupils,	51 71	
F. E. Brooks. cleaning schoolhouse	17 50	
Lyceum Hall Association, for use of Hall at High School graduation 1876-7,	24 00	
F. J. Bancroft, moving and tuning piano,	8 00	
Ulmer H. Manning, music books,	8 00	
S. T. Sweetser, labor,	2 10	
H. G. Wadlin, cash paid for sundries,	3 60	
L. E. Gleason, sundries,	3 59	
Amount carried forward,		$386 45

Amount brought forward,			$386 45
Amos McIntire, amt. of contract for painting and renovating Walnut St. School house,	75 00		
Paid Amos McIntire, labor and stock, Main St.,	15 36		
J. W. Bailey & Son, moulding,	5 00		
Carl & Modlich, tinting walls and ceiling at High School,	45 00		
Mrs. Barbarick, cleaning school house,	2 00		
Mrs. Lehan, " "	4 00		
Thos. Jeffreys, stock and labor for repairs of desks,	22 50		
J. C. Cook, painting and glazing,	9 19		
M. A. Stone, Sundries,	2 27		
Robert P. Burgess, white washing school house,	13 00		
Wm. Ware & Co., books,	2 25		
T. Littlefield, new stove Lowell St. school, and repairs	57 10		
Edward Parker. masonwork,	6 63		
Moses E. Nichols, painting,	5 55		
Bancroft & Temple, stock for floor at Main St. school house, and sundry repairs,	32 18		
G. W. Atkinson, brooms and sundries,	9 10		
A. C. Stocking, color chart,	2 00		
Frothingham & Co., erasers,	2 25		
J. W. Wentworth, repairing pumps,	2 50		
G. W. Batchelder, rent of Main St. school lot, 1877,	5 00		
W. H. Willis, books,	3 67		
Eliab C. Jones, labor,	10 00		
Warren Hayward, cleaning stove,	1 50		
Parker & Stone, sundries,	7 00		
Fred. DeJean, repairs,	2 50		
Mathew Hanley, bell,	75		
Charles Loring, repairs,	25	$343 55	
Total amount expended,			$730 00
" " Unexpended,			270 00
Appropriation,			$1000 00

Town Warrant.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

MIDDLESEX, ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Reading,

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the town of Reading qualified to vote in elections and town affairs to meet in Lyceum Hall, in said town, on MONDAY, the FIRST day of APRIL, A. D. 1878 at 9 o'clock in the forenoon, to act on the following articles, viz:

ART. 1. To choose a Moderator.

ART 2. To hear and act on the reports of the Auditors, Treasurer, Collectors, Selectmen, Assessors, Overseers of the Poor, School Committee, Road Commissioners, Engineers of the Fire Department, Trustees of the Public Library, and Trustees of the Cemetery.

ART. 3. To see if the Town will revoke its acceptance of the provisions of the 158th Chapter of the laws of this State, enacted in the year 1871, and abolish the Board of Road Commissioners, chosen and constituted under said law, or what they will do in relation thereto.

ART. 4. To see if the Town will accept and adopt Chapter 186 of the laws of the Commonwealth, enacted in the year 1877, entitled "an Act in relation to Overseers of the Poor."

ART. 5. To choose a Town Clerk, Selectmen, Assessors, Overseers of the Poor Treasurer, Collector, two School Committee for three years, one Road Commissioner for three years, and all other necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

ART. 6. To see if the Town will determine the compensation of its officers.

ART. 7. To determine how much money the Town will raise for the support of Schools, and how much for incidental school expenses, the ensuing year.

ART. 8. To determine how much money the Town will raise for the repair of Highways, Townways and Bridges, the ensuing year, and how the same shall be expended.

ART. 9. To determine how much money the Town will raise for defraying the expenses of the Fire Department the ensuing year.

ART. 10. To see how much money the Town will raise to defray the ordinary expenses of the ensuing year.

ART. 11. To determine how much money the Town will raise to pay interest on the Town Debt.

ART. 12. To determine how much money the Town will raise towards paying the Town Debt.

ART. 13. To determine how much money the Town will raise for the support of the Public Library the ensuing year.

ART. 14. To determine how much money the Town will raise for the improvement of the Cemetery the ensuing year.

ART. 15. To determine how much money the Town will raise for the repair and decoration of Soldiers' Graves.

ART. 16. To see if the Town will authorize the Treasurer to hire money, under the direction of the Selectmen, in anticipation of Taxes.

ART. 17. To see if the town will authorize the Treasurer to hire money to meet the payment of a note of $2000, due Henry L Goldsmith, Jan. 1st, 1878; also, for a note of $6000, due Warren Institution for Savings, August 27th, 1878.

ART 18. To see what instructions the town will give their Collector.

ART 19. To see for what purpose the town will appropriate the money received for dog licenses.

ART. 20. To see if the town will build a sidewalk on the Westerly side of Main Street, from the Railroad to Summer Street

ART. 21 To see if the town will build a Culvert across Main Street, near the Railroad crossing, or what they will do in relation thereto.

ART. 22. To hear and act on the reports of the Road Commissioners relocating the street leading from South Street to Walnut Street, discontinuing a portion of the same, and naming said Street; also, laying out Winter Street, leading from Salem Street to Orange Street, as a Townway; also, laying out Middlesex Avenue, leading from High Street to Bancroft Avenue, as a Townway; also, rounding the corner of Washington and John Streets, and naming Berkeley Street (so called.)

ART. 23. To see how much money the town will raise and appropriate for the building of Ash Street, in accordance with the order of the County Commissioners, or what they will do in relation thereto.

ART 24. To see if the town will procure a bell, and place the same upon the Hancock Engine House, or what they will do in relation thereto.

ART. 25. To see if the town will put in a well or cistern on West Street, near the residence of Preston Richardson, or what they will do in relation thereto.

ART. 26. To see if the town will erect and maintain Street Lights at the corner of Salem and Belmont Streets, and at the corner of Salem and Pierce Streets.

ART. 27. To hear and act on the list of Jurors, prepared by the Selectmen.

ART. 28. To hear and act on a report of the Road Commissioners, in relation to guide posts.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at or before the time appointed for said meeting.

Given under our hands this Twenty-first day of March, A. D. 1878.

JOSEPH L PRATT;
J. B LEATHE,
JAMES REID,
} SELECTMEN OF READING.

A true copy.—Attest: H. E. COX, Constable of Reading.

READING, March 23, 1878.